THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 19TH MAY.

WE HAVE had lying before us for some time Mr. Srinivasa Rao's Edition of the Transfer of Property Act. The distinguishing features of this edition are—an Introduction, Table of cases cited, notes and illustrations in the body of the Act and a full and copious Index. All these additions make the book a valuable work of reference and the professional men we make no doubt will find it an efficient help and guide. Mr. Srinivasa Row is a first grade Pleader of Kombakonum in the Madras Presidency.

WE ARE glad to notice the laudable conduct of Babu Dwarkanath Ghosh, zemindar of Ba[illegible]o in Nudden, for the help he brought to the doors of his ryots during the recent outbreak of cholera in the village. Babu Dwarkanath not only cheerfully bore all the charges for providing the sick with medicine and medical advice but also distributed food among them till the last day of the epidemic.

THE INDIAN REFORM ASSOCIATION has passed the following Resolution:

"That this Committee hereby expresses its extreme regret that, in answer to the deputation to his Lordship on the 3rd inst., the Earl of Kimberley, Secretary of State for India, should have announced that he did not feel justified in [making such a change in the regulations as would raise the present maximum limit of the age of candidates for the Civil Service; and further, that this Committee will forthwith take measures to inform public opinion on the question, and will continue to do so until the object is attained."

THE INDIVIDUAL known as "Baron von Hamburg," who succeeded in swindling the too confiding public of Ceylon of large sums of money, was found guilty on the 5th instant at Colombo of obtaining money on false pretences, and sentenced to three years' hard labour.

THE BINGERA diamond fields in Victoria, Australia, are attracting considerable attention. A syndicate formed in London is in treaty for a portion of the ground at a very high figure. Now that water has been obtained by boring, other parties intend to commence diamond mining. The diamonds increase in size and number as the wash is followed down.

A CORRESPONDENT of a contemporary, writing from Cawnpore, states that there exists in that city a "copper scare." The standard value of the rupee has fallen, and it is only negotiable now for fifteen and-a-half annas. There is no scarcity of copper coins in the market, but by some inexplicable arrangement both the local branch of the Bank of Bengal and the Government Treasury have been drained to their last copper pice.

THE CALCUTTA CORRESPONDENT of the *Times of India*, says that the Government of India have advanced the Calcutta Municipality five lakhs without interest. This fact may be considered as an almost certain indication that the loan which will be required by Government will be raised in London this year, because the sanction had been given to the Municipality to raise their loan in London, and it is evidently considered by Government that it would be bad policy, if it and the Calcutta Municipality borrowed at the same time in the same market.

TUESDAY, 20TH MAY.

IT IS STATED that the Government of India has sent a despatch to the Secretary of State containing its views on the report of the Education Commission. Owing to the non-receipt of any communication on that subject from any local Government, except that of the Punjab, the Supreme Government, it is said, has been unable to enter into much detail in the despatch; but has confined itself chiefly to the discussion of general principles. Its opinions are said to agree in the main with the views of the Commission. Where was the necessity for a hurried despatch on the subject?

THE FLOODS in the Tigris Valley have inundated a stretch of country about Baghdad, about 22 miles long by two broad. The value of the crops destroyed is estimated at £300,000, and trade generally is suffering, as all communication with Persia is cut off for a time.

THE SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS in Arts in the CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY, are now being held in the various centres throughout Northern India. Only one paper is set each day, and the hours are from 7 to 10 A. M., on account of the heat so that the examinations will extend from the 12th to the 24th of May.

MR. J. W. WROUGHTON, Assistant Superintendent in the Revenue Survey, who assaulted the headman of Kudimangalum village, Madura district, has be[illegible]spended for three months. His term of probatio[illegible] which was almost over, has been prolonged to a year. The Government gives warning that the next complaint of a similar kind will be visited with summary dismissal.

THE SURGEON-GENERAL of Bengal has submitted a report in reply to the letter of the Lieutenant-Governor regarding hospital accommodation for small-pox patients. He suggests that a particular ward in the compound of the General Hospital be set aside for paying patients, European and Eurasian, and recommends that the buildings now used at the Sealdah Hospital for small-pox patients be improved by the addition of bath-rooms, &c. These proposals have been sanctioned, and the Lieutenant-Governor further holds out the hope that a special hospital will be built. No special arrangements have however been made for Indian patients.

WE TAKE the following from the *Indu Prokash*:

We have received a copy of the memorial, which was presented by a deputation to the Secretary of State on the subject of raising the maximum limit of age of candidates for the Indian Civil Service. It exhausts almost all that can be said on the subject; and we note that it was signed by several members of Parliament. Though the object of the deputation was unquestionably good, yet we cannot help holding with our contemporary of the *Hindoo Patriot* that it would have been better if the memorialists had gone to the Secretary of State through the Govern[illegible] of India. Lord Ripon would have, in that case, taken care to institute a thorough inquiry into the question, and the result of such an inquiry would have most probably been favourable to the object which the memorialists and the natives of India have at heart. The memorialists dispensed with these precautions and counted too much upon the liberality of Lord Kimberley's opinions; and the result was a most unexpected discomfiture. Lord Ripon has now to unsettle the opinion, to which Lord Kimberley has committed himself, before accomplishing what is generally felt to be necessary.

THE FOLLOWING is an explanation of Dr. Hunter's visit to England:

"The Hon'ble Mr. W. W. Hunter proceeds Home by the next mail steamer to give evidence before the Parliamentary Committee on Indian Railways. It would seem that Mr. Hunter had arranged to take three months' privilege leave from the 1st August next, and Mr. Hope, the Public Works Minister, suggested that as the Education question had temporarily been disposed of, and the *Gazetteer* work could be done at Home, Mr. Hunter might start at once, so as to arrive in time to be examined before the Select Committee, if they cared to call him. We believe the Government of India were not at all anxious to put the Director-General of Statistics forward as a witness, but the Public Works Minister inclines to the belief that Mr. Hunter, though not a specialist either in Engineering or Finance, with his wide general knowledge of India and its requirements, should prove a useful witness on behalf of the Indian authorities. The Government, seeing that no particular expense was involved, accepted Mr. Hope's view, and hence Mr. Hunter's departure. We are informed that he will deal with the economic, industrial, and famine statistics of railways in India from the P. W. D. point of view—whatever that may be."

AMONG some of the recent improvements introduced by the Maharajah of Cashmere is an ice factory and a broad-cloth mill. Both these places of business are under the immediate supervision of Mr. W. R. G. Campbell, Mechanical Engineer to His Highness.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST MAY.

THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS has the following:

The leaders of the ryots are quite alive to the uselessness of the proposed Bengal Tenancy Bill, and are sending in to the Government of India numerous signatures in support of their petition for the restoration of Regulation VIII. of 1793, Regulation VII. of 1822, and Regulation XI. of 1825. These Regulations are those which affect the ryots, and which they contend ought to protect them from ejectment and from enhancement of rent. The ryots do not want such a law as the Bengal Tenancy Bill would be, but a short Act for the proper explanation of the above Regulation, and this Act they assert would do no harm to the zamindars.

We should like to see the memorial.

SIR H. MAXWELL the other evening called the attention of the House of Commons to the fact that the Government (not the Post-master General) had recently appointed a solicitor as Post-master on the recommendation of the member for Banffshire, Mr. R. Duff. Mr. Duff replied that the solicitor in question was the best man in the place, and that the Tories had made the same kind of appointments. The Postmaster-General did not once open his lips on the subject.

APROPOS of the Tramway Case we give the following from the London letter of a local contemporary:

It appears that in the employ of the North London Tramways Company each driver or conductor is compelled to make a deposit of £5 before beginning work. This, of course, may be desirable, and even necessary where so large a number of men are employed. The company, however go far beyond this. They compel each man to sign an agreement, one of the clauses of which says: "The traffic manager, without giving any reason whatever, can discharge a man without notice, and such man shall then forfeit his deposit and any wage then due. The manager's certificate of such dismissal shall be a bar to legal proceedings in any court of law—civil or criminal." This monstrous clause has just, it is stated, received a practical illustration. A short time ago a conductor was injured, and was compelled to lay up for a few days. When a little better, he returned to his work, but after working two days he was dismissed, and on the rule that "no cause would be assigned." After some difficulty the cause was assigned—that he had passed a ticket without punching it, which he denied. Both his deposit and his wages were refused to him. This case, it is stated, is to come before a legal tribunal. But what a monstrous thing it is that men can thus be compelled to sign away their rights as certainly as if they signed themselves into slavery.

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT writes:

Mr. Parnell has just been sueing a tenant for rent. A lease of some of his property was transferred, three years ago, with his consent from a tenant, named West, to one named Dalton. Mr. West subsequently died, and Mr. Parnell now sued his widow for three years' rent, £168. Mrs. West pleaded that in accepting the assignment to Dalton, Mr. Parnell took over the entire lease, discharging her husband. Mr. Parnell, while admitting that he had accepted the assignment, totally denied that he had exonerated Mr. West from responsibility, and in the face of this, he had a verdict. It was shown, however, that the lease contained stringent covenants, preventing the tenants from seeking for "compensation for disturbance," or "for improvements." I do not know the facts sufficiently to express an opinion upon them, but I think that if an English or Scotch landlord had stood in Mr. Parnell's position he would have been pilloried as a tyrant. There may, of course, have been circumstances unreported, but judging by the report, I should take Mr. Parnell's position to be at least morally questionable on his own views as to landordism.

Quite so, did not the covenants mean that the tenant contracted himself out of his rights?

MR RUSKIN some days ago gave Mr. Gladstone a very severe knock on a point on which Mr. Gladstone is a little sensitive. It came in this way. *Pall Mall Gazette* has of late taken up the business of interviewing notable man, and it has caught Mr. Ruskin and published his views on many subjects. Among these was the great subjects of politics on which at first Mr. Ruskin proposed to have no opinions at all. Then, as an afterthought, he said—yes, he thought Mr. Gladstone a windbag, and a man who used his great powers of speech, not to elicit or convey truth, but to divert attention from facts.

THE CURRENT GUP of the Khyber is to the effect that a Russian force is encamped within two marches of Herat, while their merchants go and trade with the Heratis without any restriction from the Governor.

THE AMEER has ordered the reduction in Kandahar of the list of salaries and pensions to the amount of seven lakhs Kandahari rupees.

THURSDAY, 22ND MAY.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of a petition which Babu Judoo Nath Ghose, a permanent way sub-Inspector on the Northern Bengal State Railway has addressed his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. In this petition the Babu has set forth two grievances, the first is his summary dismissal and the second is an outrageous assault committed upon him by Mr. Greenless, personal assistant to the Superintendent of Works at Saidpore. If the facts set forth in the petition have been correctly stated the dismissal is one of those high-handed and arbitrary acts, which have been rather common of late. The Babu is charged with disobedience of orders of which he had no knowledge and on which no explanation was called for. As for the assault we are of opinion that he should have at once prosecuted his assailant. We hope the Government will make a sifting enquiry into this case.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following dated 12th May from our correspondent at Sreekrishnapore in the Burdwan district:

We had sufficient rain in this part of the country during the last fortnight. The weather has become cool

and the lands cultivable, but the rumour that the Government will not take steps to ward off the Damoodar floods has induced most of the cultivators to stop agricultural operations. About 40 villages in our neighbourhood have so combined. The season however is sufficiently advanced to begin work. I hear that at the instance of our sympathising Commissioner Mr. Beames, the Collector of Burdwan, has sent a reminder to the Public Works Department to take up the work of closing the Junkully breach. Though the District and Divisional authorities may sympathise with the people, they are powerless for good, as the provisions of the Embankment Act and the obstructive inclination of the ruling authorities stand in their way.

The River Damoodar has risen.

WE ARE REQUESTED to notice the acts of violence committed on the members of the Brahma Somaj at Chittagong. These acts have already attracted public attention, and we hope, we will be favoured with an impartial official report on the subject.

Mr. C. T. BUCKLAND has addressed the Globe a telling letter regarding the Bengal Tenancy Bill. We give the following from it :

No measure of land tenure, says Professor Baldwin, can possibly cure the chronic state of misery and want which prevails in the congested districts of Ireland. Since 1871 the agricultural classes in Ireland have not advanced, but retrograded. Nearly 600,000 acres have gone out of use and into waste in the space of 12 years; the area under every crop has been reduced; the number of head of cattle has fallen off by nearly 20,000 and the number of sheep by above 1,000,000. These, it is to be observed, are the results of the Land Acts of 1870 and 1881, as described by one of the highest agricultural authorities in Ireland, Professor Baldwin. If such is the result of mistaken legislation in Ireland, what evil results may not be anticipated from the application of similar mischievous principles to Bengal? And it is desirable that it should be known to the British public that this Bengal Tenancy Bill, which is so revolutionary in its character, was originally devised by certain Irishmen who have found their way into the Bengal Civil Service, and is now being most zealously pushed on by an Irishman who puts himself forth as the representative of the Government of Bengal. There are many old Indians who declare themselves unwilling to oppose the Bill, because it appears to have the support of Mr. Rivers Thompson, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. But the real Lieutenant-Governor has been sick nigh unto death, and he had permitted his Secretary Mr. MacDonnell, an Irishman and a Home Ruler, to act and to write on his behalf, as if the Secretary were the master and not the man. Such a thing is almost unprecedented in India, but it shows from what source the danger to Bengal comes. "I submit, writes Mr. MacDonnell that the lesson which Irish experience most certainly teaches us is that our rent legislation should be carried through, while reason can make its voice easily heard. There is much similarity between the agrarian condition of Ireland as I knew it ten years ago, and the condition of these provinces to-day. The same causes—poverty, insecurity of tenure and rack-renting—which produced such evil consequences in Ireland, are now at work in Bengal. The time is not far distant when Government must interfere, and when Bengal Zemindars, like Irish landlords, must submit to a reduction of their rents, and a large curtailment of their privileges." I have been obliged to quote very sparsely from Mr. MacDonell's paper, but this may be taken as a specimen of the arguments which are set forth in the name, and alas! with the official approval of the sick man who should be the responsible ruler of Bengal. Mr. MacDonnell concludes by hoping that the Bill may soon become law; for he says that the entire province is expectant, and there is even already danger of a no rent cry being raised in certain districts. Fortunately we know that, in spite of Mr. MacDonnell's hopes and threats, the Bill has been postponed for another year. But what must be the feelings of the Native landlords of Bengal, when they are threatened with this Irish legislation, by an Irishman, dressed in a little brief authority who is evidently unconscious of the evidence given by Professor Baldwin of the deplorable effects of the Irish land laws in Ireland?

WE LEARN from the *Statesman's* Year-Book that in France, out of a population of over thirty millions, seven millions declared themselves Atheists! It is curious that Anarchy and Atheism generally go hand in hand. Atheism was on the ascendant during the time of Robespierre and the great French Revolution, and it is so with the modern Nihilists, the Communists, the Socialists and the rest of those who propound theories hardly a step removed from positive Anarchy; for it seems that such is the rage with them for a dead-level *Equality*, that they cannot brook the idea of superiority even in a Godhead. We hope this will be a warning to "young men of the period" both in the West and the East.

THE PIONEER thus concludes a notice of Mr. Nesfield's essay on the "Primitive Philosophy of Fire":

We conclude by adding one more to the quotations made by Mr. Nesfield in his previous paper with reference to the early acquaintance of the Hindus with the burning lens. The passage is of interest as doubtless being the oldest of the kind and as showing that the burning lens was considered to furnish the decisive proof of the heavenly fire and the earthly fire being one and the same. It is found in Yaska, the earliest Hindu writer on etymology, whose date cannot well be fixed at a later period than about 400—300 B. C. trying to explain the word Vaisvanara, one of the surnames of Agni, the god of fire, Yaska remarks that some commentators consider the word to denote this Agni, *i. e.*, the sun in the sky. "But" he continues, "the sun is called Visvanara; and therefore Vaisvanara—which means the son of Visvanara—must denote this Agni *i. e.*, the earthly fire which is descended from the heavenly fire. That it is so descended is shown by the following experiment. Take at the time of the summer solstice a piece of dry cowdung and place it in the focus of a well-polished metal cup or of a crystal; it will then catch fire. That fire is this Agni, the son of the Agni in the sky.

FRIDAY, 23RD MAY.

THE HYDERABAD CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* writes :

Next to the railway, Mr. Gorst's article in the *Fortnightly* is the most frequent topic of conversation in Hyderabad, translations of it in Persian having, it is whispered, found their way into the innermost recesses of the Zenanas. The gross and indecent accusations against the Nizam and his Minister are naturally the points that provoke most indignation. It is said: Is this your refined English gentleman and member of parliament? Is this the superior consideration with which English public men boast that they treat natives of India as compared to the soldiers and civilians who rule over them? Would Mr. Gorst, after spending a fortnight as the guest of an English Duke or a German princeling, dare to write in a public print that his host was a drunkard and a debauchee, false alike to his country and his religion?

This is gratitude of Englishmen of a certain order!

WE HAVE much pleasure in giving the following cutting from the *Times* :

A feat of telegraphy.—We have often heard of the wonderful line between this country and Teheran, the capital of Persia, a distance of 3,800 miles, but we scarcely realized the fact that good signals were obtainable through so great a length of wire until recently, when we availed ourselves of an invitation from Mr. W. Andrews, the managing director of the Indo-European Telegraph Company, and to make a visit of Inspection. It was between 7 and 8 on Sunday evening April 13, when we reached the office. In the basement of an unpretentious building in Old Broad-street we were shown the Morse printer in connexion with the main line from London to Teheran. The courteous clerk in charge of the wire, Mr. Blagrove, informed us that we were through to Emden, and with the same ease with which one "wires" from the City to the West-end, we asked a few questions of the telegraphist in the German town. When we had finished with Emden, we spoke with the same facility to the gentleman on duty at Odessa. This did not satisfy us, and in a few seconds we were through to Persian capital (Teheran) There were no messages about, the time was favourable, and the *employes* of the various countries seemed anxious to give us an opportunity of testing the capacity of this wonderful line. T. H. N (Teheran) said "Call Kurrachee,' and in less time than it takes to write these words we gained the attention of the Indian town. The signals were good, and our speed must have equalled 15 words a minute. The operator at Kurrachee, when he learnt that London was speaking to him, thought it would be a good opportunity to put us through to Agra, and to our astonishment the signals did not fail, and we chatted pleasantly for a few minutes with Mr. Malcom Khan, the clerk on duty. To make this triumph of telegraphy complete, Agra switched us on to another line, and we were soon talking to a native telegraphist at the Indian Government Cable Station, Calcutta. At first the gentleman "at the other end of the wire could not believe that he was really in direct communication with the English capital, and he exclaimed in Morse language "Are you really London?,. Truly this was a great achievement. Metallic communication without a break from 18. Old Broad street, London, to the telegraph office in Calcutta, 7,000 miles of wire! The signals were excellent, and the speed attained was not less than 12, perhaps 14, words per minute.—*Telegraphist.*

THE INDIAN MIRROR gives in the following terms the result of the trial of the Bhowal Murder case in the High Court :

The High Court has set aside the verdict of acquittal of the Dacca Jury in the Bhowal Murder case, and convicted one of the prisoners of murder, and sentenced him to transportation for life, while the remaining three prisoners have been found guilty of being members of an unlawful assembly in the prosecution of the common objects, of which grievous hurt was likely to have been caused within the knowledge of the accused, and have been accordingly sentenced to seven years, rigorous imprisonment each. There are more than a dozen accused persons who have absconded, and among them is Surendra Nath Roy Chowdhry, son of the Zemindar, Mohim Chunder Roy Chowdhry, and these persons will be placed on their trial, when arrested. Surendra Nath is a young man of about 19 years of age, and is said to have organised and headed the attack on the deceased, Umesh Chunder Bakshi. Public opinion at Dacca is divided on the subject of this case, and there is a large party whose sympathies are on the side of the accused.

THE PIONEER on our comparison of the Conservatives and Liberals as the governing power in India :

And then our contemporary balances the misdeeds of the two parties against each other. The Conservatives repealed the cotton duties in part; the Liberals in whole. The Conservatives plunged into Afghanistan; the Liberals after stultifying any possible results of the move are preparing to do the same. The Conservatives made India pay for English policy in Afghanistan; but the Liberals for English policy in Egypt. The Liberal Government has not repealed the Arms Act or removed the License Tax, the only thing that it has done has been to abolish the Vernacular Press Act, and that says our grateful contemporary, had already become a dead letter—though one would not have thought so to judge by the jubilant huzzas of the Native Press when it was removed. It is always painful to find oneself disillusioned, but while the Native Press is going through the disagreeable process of discovering that the Radical member is very like the Conservative in preferring his own seat to the interests of the mute millions, others too must be sharers in the awakening. Must it not be a mortifying reflection to the authors of the Ilbert Bill, after all that they have sacrificed, to find themselves, now that they can give no more, spoken of no longer as god like and divine, but at the best as amiable nonentities, not strong enough to resist the baleful influences of their Councillors and surroundings.

Our contemporary is mistaken. Good men do not suffer because they are not always successful.

WE CONGRATULATE Mr. Mackenzie, the Home Secretary for his narrow escape from a fall on a *khud* at Simla. He had a similar narrow escape at the Madras Harbour last year.

WE GIVE the following from a provincial paper of England :

India is likely once more to be the scene of an agitation as keen and widespread as that caused by the unfortunate Ilbert Bill. The measure dealing with the Tenancy Law in Bengal is very unpopular. We are blessed with a Government which never moves but it manages to offend some class whose support is of the greatest service to the stability of the empire. Here we have another instance of that fatal disregard for the interests of the realm, which was so nearly successful in the matter of the Suez Canal, and which may in the case of the Shipping Bill result in driving our most valuable trade abroad. However, our rulers never blush when they find they may lose office if they do not come to terms, and thus even the Tenancy Bill may be dealt with in the usual spirit of faint-hearted compromise.

SATURDAY, 17TH MAY.

WE ARE INDEBTED to the *Englishman* for the following telegram from Chittagong :

Chittagong May 22.—The British India Steamer *Busheer* arrived here to-day, and reports that a severe cyclone overwhelmed Akayab on Saturday, the 17th instant. The damage that was done is very considerable. The Oyster Reef Light House is entirely destroyed, and the whole of the staff missing. The storm raged for twelve hours, from 2 P. M., Saturday afternoon, to 2 A, M., Sunday morning. The houses and godowns in the station are much damaged, and the hospital partially destroyed. Three cargo boats and other small craft were sunk. The ship *Alexander* which is laden with rice, ran aground, and nine feet of water are reported in her hold. Th ship *Loch Lenuhe* (?) which was unloaded has also run aground, and is nearly high and dry at low water. As far as can be ascertained at present, she is apparently uninjured, but great difficulty is apprehended in refloating her. The ship *Rosini* also went aground, but was re-floated in two hours uninjured. The ship *Fizi* is not reported. A large quantity of wreckage was washed into Akyab harbour. Chittagong station is untouched, but the weather was very suspicious.

THE TIMES has pronounced itself against the opponents of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and the reasons given are as follows :

It is noticeable that the class of natives which is now calling out against the Bengal Tenancy Bill is just that in whose favour the notorious Ilbert Bill was introduced, and by whom it was most warmly welcomed. The very same native newspapers which defended and encouraged Lord Ripon's action then are attacking and condemning it now. It is perhaps hardly necessary for us to point out that the comparatively small number of Babus for whom the Ilbert Bill was constructed, and whose interests are supposed to be menaced by the Bengal Tenancy Bill, have no special claim on the good offices of the country and of the Government. Whatever support the Ilbert Bill received in this country was given under a delusive idea that the general body of the natives in India were interested in it, and from a wish to show kindness to the weaker and more helpless side. The Bengal Tenancy Bill is a more fit object for these generous sentiments to expand upon. That the Bill is fairly open to criticism in its details we do not deny. Its advocates are by no means in entire agreement about these.

It is a national calamity that the *Times* should be moved by such petty feelings.

THE ENGLISHMAN'S London Correspondent thus comments on the above :

It may be hoped that the establishment of the Indian Constitutional Association, of which I have seen several notices in the press during the past week, will serve to dissipate these mistaken notions. As in the case of the Ilbert Bill, whatever little support Lord Ripon's crazy notions obtain in this country can be referred immediately to the ignorance or the misguidance of those who support them.

WE HAVE RECEIVD an account of the ceremonies which accompanied the distribution of prizes to the students of the Ghatal High English School. It gives us great pleasure to notice the zeal and public spirit of the sub-divisional officer in the cause of public education.

WE HAVE received a representation from some native gentlemen of the Netrocona sub-division of the Mymensing District in which the writer bitterly complains of the extortions and oppressions practised by some of the local police. We invite the attention of the District Magistrate to this complaint.

THERE WERE 272 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 17th May, of which 67 were from cholera, 28 from small-pox, 59 from fevers, 18 from bowel complaints, 5 from accidents, 15 from pthisis and asthma, 20 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Infant mortality 56. Amongst non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 11. The average of daily mortality was 38·8. The ratio of deaths for 1,000 of population is 32·7 which indicates normal condition.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London May, 16.—The tenders for the new Indian loan amounted to £3,130,000. The average rate of allotment was £94 4·2 per one hundred pound.

17.—Lord Granville, replying to a question in the House of Lords, said that some refugees who had reached Assouan from Berber and Korosko report that General Gordon is well and that he has been making several successful sorties from Khartoum. News from the Cape state that the Usufus have defeated the friendly tribes on the borders of the reserve territory. The British Resident has retreated to Entameni.

20. Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question in the House of Commons last evening, said that the Government would adhere to the original basis of the proposed Egyptian Conference, and that as soon as an interchange of views between England and France was concluded, the other Powers would be consulted.

20. Mr. Chamberlain introduced his Merchant Shipping Bill in the House of Commons last night. The Bill meets with much opposition from shipowners.

21.—The Government has invited tenders for thirty river launches, and other indications show that an expedition to the Soudan is being prepared. No announcement of an official character has, however, yet been made with reference thereto.

21. The House of Commons last night negatived, by a very large majority, the amendment excluding Ireland from the present Reform Bill.

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22.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* publishes a paragraph stating that the expedition which will be prepared immediately for the relief of General Gordon will consist of ten thousand strong, under the command of General Sir Garnet Wolseley, and will start in the autumn. The expedition will use the Sukim Ber route. Everything, in fact, has been virtually decided, unless General Gordon succeeds in making his escape from Khartoum and the Soudan. A *Gazette* has been published in which the following promotions appear, besides those of many other officers:—Major-General Sir Gerald Graham has been appointed Lieutenant-General, Colonel Buller has been appointed Major-General, and Rear Admiral Sir William Hewett has been appointed Vice-Admiral.

Cairo, May 16.—The Governor of Dongola has sent a message declining to withdraw and stating that if he received reinforcements he would reconquer the Soudan. The British Government have withdrawn their veto against the despatch of the Egyptian troops to Wady Halfa from Assouan.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Natural History of the Mammalia of India and Ceylon. By Robert A. Sterndate, F.R.G.S, F.Z.S. &c. 2. Annual Report on the Insane Asylums in Bengal for 1883. 3. Annual Report of the Royal Botanical Garden, Calcutta, for 1883-34. 4. Report on the Political Administration of the Rajputana States (Selections from the Records of the Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 193.) 5. Reports on Publications issued and Registered in the several Provinces of British India during 1882 (Selections from the Records of the Government of India, Home Department No. 195). 6. Journal of the East India Association, London, Nos. 5, and 6, Vol. XV. 7. The Anti-Christian, Vol. II, No. 5 May, 1884. 8. Memorandum of the Himalyan Snowfall of the season 1883-84 up to the end of March. 9. The Voice of India, Vol. II, No. 9 for May 15, 1884. 10. The Calcutta Journal of Medicine, Nos. 11 and 12, Vol. XI, for November and December 1883. 11. Ninth Annual Report of the Government Security Life Assurance Company for 1883. 12. Professor Max Muller's Hibbert Lectures on the origin and growth of Religion as illustrated by the Religions of India, translated into Bengali, by Rajunikant Gupta and published by B. M. Malabari, Bombay. 13. The Journal of the National Indian Association for May 1884. 14. Statement exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India during the year 1881-82 (Parliamentary Blue Book.) 15. Bally Paper Mills Company's Sample Book of Papers with list of Prices. 16. Prospectus of the Parjowar Jamiti or Parjowar Association. 17. Mahabharat with original text and Bengali Translation—Vana Parva—published and distributed *gratis* by Protapchunder Roy. 18. Mahabharat translated into English Prose, published and distributed as above, Adipurva Part VII. 19. Ramayana, Ajudhya Kanda—with original Sanskrit text and Bengali Translation, published and distributed as above. 20. Annual Report of the Simla Banga Bidyaloya for 1883. 21. Koosummala a new Bengali monthly, Vol. 1. No. 1.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 26, 1884.

THE INDIAN CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.

THIS old question has been revived. It arose in this way. In 1881 the Secretary of State called upon the Government of India for information under the following head: "In order to enable me to deal adequately with the subject in Parliament, and also on account of its own importance, it is desirable that the Government of India should express specifically its own opinion whether the number of chaplain goes beyond the obligations of Government reasonably understood." In reply, the Government of India in a remarkably precise and lucid despatch has argued out the whole question of the Indian Church Establishment, and recorded its views. But there is a great anomaly here. The Government of India consisting of eight members have signed the despatch, but five of them have recorded a separate joint dissent, so that the despatch is practically signed by 3 members of the Government. The Secretary of State has pointed out this grave irregularity and the despatch has since been transformed into a document of the majority. The Viceroy and the Financial and Legal members now constitute the minority; the majority are the Commander-in-Chief, Lieutenant-General Wilson, Mr. Gibbs, Sir Steuart Bayley and Mr. T. C. Hope. This division in the cabinet shews the character of the present Indian Government. There seems to be a want of cohesion between the English and the Indian Members of the Government of India in matters of grave national importance. The English members seem to be prepared to go to any reasonable length for the administration of India on liberal and just principles, but the Indian members are apparently not so disposed. The English members coming with fresh English ideas do not feel hampered by Indian traditions, but the Indian members nurtured in those traditions cannot sever themselves from them. It is a case of Jowler and Vixen—one pulling one way and the other the other way. There can be no harmony amid such a discord, no sound progress amid such opposing influences. We only wonder how the present Government of India consisting of such jarring elements has existed so long. But the fact has at last been laid bare as to how the people of India are governed. Between the two sections of the cabinet there must be always going on attacks and re-attacks, concessions and compromises, questionings and cavillings and can such a Government be consistent, conscientious, prosperous and successful? Party politics in England are well understood, but we have now a new spectacle in the Indian cabinet, we mean party politics among its members. In England the cabinet is at any rate united, in India as we see from the paper before us, it is disunited, and such disunion cannot be conducive to national aggrandisement, strength, prosperity and welfare.

To return to the subject, the Government of India has gone back so far as the days of William III and enquired whether any obligation is imposed upon the British Government of India to provide for Christian ministrations to British-born subjects. The present position of the Government on the subject is thus enunciated:

The most recent declaration of principle is, however, contained in a Despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 80 (Financial) of 3c. March 1876. In this Despatch, the following passage occurs:—"There is no 'Ecclesiastical Establishment' in the sense of a State church in India. The Government of India recognise the duty, within reasonable limits, of providing the ministrations of religion for British-born European sarvants of the Crown, and especially for soldiers and their families." In comparing this statement with that which was put forward by the Court of Directors in 1846, three points are especially worthy of notice. These are:—

That in the interval between 1846 and 1876 the policy of providing exclusively for the ministrations of religion to members of the church of England had been abandoned.

That the obligation of the Government to provide the ministrations of religion for servants of the Crown was limited to those who were Europeans and British-born, and that these latter were only to be provided with such ministrations within reasonable limits."

That a special obligation was recognised in respect to "soldiers and their families."

The despatch then goes on:

The first point that we have to decide is, whether the obligations of the Government are, for the future, to be limited to the provision of spiritual ministrations for servants of the Crown, or whether we are to recognise any obligation in respect to the general non-official Christain community. In the discussions which have taken place on this subject, the view that the obligations of Government extend beyond the circle of officials has been occasionally advocated. It would, however, in our opinion, be most undesirable to recognise any such obligation. To do so would involve the Government in great difficulties, not only in respect to its relations with the different Christian communities but also in respect to its relations with non-Christian communities.

As regards Christian communities, directly we extend our operations outside the circle of officials, we are landed in this dilemma—that we must either confine our action to the spiritual ministrations of the Church of England, in which case we at once create an Established Church and depart from the sound principle laid down in 1876, to the effect that "there is no Ecclesiastical Establishment in the sense of a State Church in India;" or we must provide for spiritual ministrations to other Christian communities, viz., Roman Catholics, Presbeterians, &c.; that is to say, we must establish several churches, a course which is open to many obvious objections.

The difficulties which would arise in respect to the relations between the Government and non-Christian communities would be even greater. If we were to provide from the revenues of India for spiritual ministrations to the unofficial Christian community, we should in all probability be asked to provide also for the religious wants of the non-Christian members of the tax-paying community. To do so, however, would be a complete reversal of the policy which has been for many years pursued, and would, in our opinion, be open to grave objection.

We are of opinion, therefore, that in considering the manner in which the obligations of the Government should be understood, we should altogether exclude the idea that the Government is to make any provision for spiritual ministrations to the non-official community.

The next point argued is this:

The next question to be decided is, whether the State recognises an obligation in respect to all servants of the Crown, who are Christians, or whether its action should be confined to the provision of spiritual ministrations to European British-born subjects. We think that we should adhere to the principle laid down in the despatch of 3rd March 1876. The distinction between European servants of the Crown who come out from England, and Christian servants of the Crown born in India, appears to us to be sound and intelligible. If once the obligation to provide spiritual ministrations for Christian servants of the Crown born in India be recognised, it would be very difficult for us, consistently with the proclamation of Her Majesty the Queen Empress issued subsequent to the Mutiny, to refuse to provide for spiritual ministrations to other servants of the Crown belonging to non-Chirstian communities.

In considering, therefore, how the obligations of Government are to be understood, we are of opinion that all idea of State aid should be discarded, except in respect to European British-born subjects, and that in respect to such subjects of Her Majesty, State aid should only be given "within reasonable limits."

Again:

The next question to be decided is, whether the State should provide for spiritual ministrations to all European British-born subjects who are servants of the Crown, or whether such aid should generally be restricted to soldiers and their families, in respect of whom the special obligations of the Government are generally recognised. It is in regard to this point that the principle laid down in the Despatch of 3rd March 1876, is somewhat wanting in precision. In that Despatch, it is, indeed, said that the Government recognises its obligations, especially in the case of "soldiers and their families; but it is also recognised that, "within reasonable limits," the Government should provide the ministrations of religion for other British-born European servants of the Crown. Are we, in the future, as in the past, to recognise this latter obligation? And if so, how are the words within reasonable limits to be construed? We consider that our Ecclesiastical Establishments should be based solely upon a sufficient provison being made for spiritual ministrations to soldiers and their families. In a great many cases, the Civil servants of the Crown, who come from England will be able to avail themselves of the service of those Chaplains who are primarily provided for the use of the troops. Where troops are not quartered, it will generally be found that the number of Civil servants of the Crown, who have come from England, is not sufficient to justify the special provision of spiritual ministrations on their behalf from funds provided by the State. Moreover, it must be remembered that English Civilians in India constitute a class which is in comparatively easy circumstances, and belong to a nation which is enormously wealthy, and by no means disinclined to subscribe funds for religious purposes.

We should mention, however, that there is another class of public servants who are Europeans, and British-born, and who, we think may properly be regarded, for the purposes of this argument, as coming within the same category as soldiers and their families. We refer to the European British-born servants of the State Railways. Where these are congregated in any considerable numbers, we think that Government may legitimately provide for their spiritual wants. We consider, however, that grants made for this latter purpose should be charged, not against the general revenues of the state, but against the revenue of the particular railway. It will thus be clear that payments are made, not by the State as such, but by the State in its incidental character as manager of a particular industrial enterprise.

The proposals of the liberal section of the Government of India are so moderate and reasonable that we are willing to give our adhesion to them, though we deny in toto the justice of applying for the benefit of the Christian Church any portion of the revenues contributed by the

Hindu and Mahomedan subjects of Her Majesty e Queen Empress. If it be contended that to pro-de for Christian ministration for the Christian oops is not only a matter of the English military de, but also of State policy, may it not be ged with equal propriety that in the interests of morality, religion and discipline the native troops of Her Majesty require similar means and appliances for the cultivation of their religious sentiments and the discipline of their religious feelings. Surely no Christian statesmen will argue that the Indian soldier does not require so much religious teaching for external good conduct as the Christian soldier does, for he would be then paying a compliment to the Indian religions which he would be withholding from his own religion. It is not however our intention to discuss the comparative merits of different religions.

The Secretary of State now sees that he has sprung a mine of his own beneath himself and he therefore abruptly concludes the discussion. Taking advantage of difference of opinion between the two sections of the Indian cabinet His Lordship writes :

In the presence of such wide differences of opinion, I have great doubt whether it is desirable to proceed further in the matter, more specially as there has not been as far as I am aware, any serious complaints in India of the working of the existing system. But before giving any further consideration to the question, I desire to be made acquainted with the views of the Governments of Madras and Bombay, which during half a century, have distinct ecclesiastical departments of their own under the superintendence (so far as Chaplains of the Established Church of England are concerned) of separate Bishops deriving their status from the explicit provision of an Act of Parliament (3&4 Will 4.,c.85. ss, 89-101.) I see no reason, however, for consulting the other Local Governments, which are in a different position.

We hope, however, the question will not be allowed to set at rest. We hope that the national consciences of England will protest against the inequitable policy of the Indian Government in this ecclesiastical matter and do the much-needed justice to the millions of India.

HOW ENGLAND ACQUIRED HER INDIAN EMPIRE.

IN a recent issue we noticed briefly Mr. Seymour Keay's second article on the spoliation of India in the April number of the *Nineteenth Century*. There is one question discussed in this article, which demands a more extended consideration. The question whether or no England acquired her Indian Empire by conquest was given a great prominence during the unfortunate Ilbert Bill controversy. The bitterest opponents of that ill-fated measure did not hesitate to assert loudly that as Englishmen conquered the country by force of arms, the fundamental principle of the British Empire in India is race distinction between the rulers and the ruled. Sir James Stephen proceeded further and maintained that the original conquest of India forms at this day the very foundations of its Government. Such being the case, Mr. Seymour Keay has done an important public service by discussing the question, whether or no England's Indian Empire was acquired by conquest. It will be remembered that in his first article on the spoliation of India which appeared in the July number of the *Nineteenth Century*, he maintained that the bulk of that empire was acquired not by conquest, but by breach of faith with the Native Powers. Exception having been taken to this view by his critics, Mr. Seymour Keay has returned to the subject. Referring to Sir James Stephen's assertions, he observes :—"When the company's Government, duly bribed with £1,750,000, and their troops hired by Meer Jaffir as mere mercenaries, successfully aided that pretender to become Ruler of Bengal, he [Sir James Stephen holds that they had been actually all the while conquering for themselves the country whose prince they had just served and installed ! Shortly afterwards a few of our troops, fighting once more as the mercenary allies of the Ruler of Bengal won a victory at Buxar over the forces of the Oudh State. Sir James Stephen admits that this battle was a victory of Bengal over Oudh. Yet he thinks that thereby we acquired, by right of conquest, the whole of Northern India. Indeed, it would appear that no fighting at all is required to fulfil his idea of a conquest ; for he adds that the free grant to the company of the Dewannee by the King of Delhi, which speedily followed these events, was itself equivalent to the conquest of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. There is thus no hope of India escaping the brand and stigma of conquest. If the Company won a battle, fighting side by side along with a faithful native ally, the circumstance had apparently quite as bad a political effect upon their ally's kingdom as if they had fought against him. It mattered not even if the battle against the common enemy was in great part won by their ally's own native troops. If any of the Company's forces—if only a British General were engaged, the fact at once established a right of conquest over all conquered, both friends and foes. Nay, more, to secure a right of conquest over any country, it is held quite enough that the Company possessed the best equipped body of troops in it, even were the sword not drawn at all."

In order to establish the accuracy of these observations, Mr. Seymour Keay gives a brief sketch of how the principal provinces of the Indian Empire were actually acquired. The acquisition of Bengal, he says, was begun in 1760 by an act of the grossest perfidy. Though Meer Jaffir was the firm friend of the Company and had bought their alliance by the payment of £1,750,000, yet they betrayed him when there was an opportunity of getting another bribe and the transfer of some fertile territory by doing so. It was in this way that the districts of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong were obtained from Meer Cossim. Shorty afterwards the Company acquired possession of the remaining part of Bengal, Behar and Orissa by offering their services to the Native Ruler as his financial administrators and by gradually usurping all the functions of Government. In 1781, the territory of Benares was practically annexed, on the pretext that the Rajah had been remiss in furnishing a military force. The principal part of the Madras Presidency, Mr. Seymour Keay points out, was likewise acquired by the Madras Government successfully copying the tactics of Bengal; while the States of Jhansi, Sattara, and Nagpore were all appropriated by the invention of an iniquitous doctrine called 'lapse,' under which the Government, disregarding the solemn sanctions of Hindu Law, refused to recognise heirs by adoption. Oudh was annexed in defiance of the most solemn treaties of perpetual friendship and protective alliance. "Under these treaties," says Mr. Seymour Keay, "the State had bought from us, at our own price, a guarantee that we would protect it against all enemies, external and internal. The guarantee was to be carried out by means of British forces, stationed at the capital for that express purpose, the cost of which was to be defrayed from the revenues of certain ceded districts. A British force was thus already ensconced in the heart of the State as its paid servant. Taking advantage of this, Lord Dalhousie deliberately effaced the Oudh State, and converted the servant into the master, by a simple proclamation." The Punjab, observes Mr. Seymour Keay, was appropriated even under worse conditions than Oudh. He admits that if the annexation of that province had taken place in 1846 after the first Sikh war, there might have been good grounds for saying that the acquisition was made by conquest. But the Government did not then annex the Punjab. Certain districts were then appropriated for the purpose of providing the cost of a British force, and a Council of Regency was established at the capital of the province for the express purpose of maintaining the administration of the province during the minority of the Maharaja Dhuleep Sing. Under the arrangement made, the Resident, as the representative of the British Government, had full authority to direct and control all matters in every department of the State. Thus the British Government, Mr. Seymour Keay rightly adds, for pecuniary value received, became the official guarantors of the tranquillity and integrity of the Punjab, and were bound to quell with their own troops all disturbances, free of all further claim against the country. Nor was this all. The British Government also accepted the sacred office of guardian of the person and rights of the minor Prince himself. When a renewed outbreak of the Sikh army took place in 1848, the British Government quelled the mutiny. But, having done so, the Government declared that the Punjab State had been at war with the British Government, and, to use Mr. Keay's language, "casting to the winds alike the bonds of pecuniary honesty, the faith of treaties, and the tender duty of a guardian towards a helpless child, they held the hand of their own ward, as they made him sign away his hereditary dominions and efface himself from the list of Indian potentates." Lastly, Mr. Seymour Keay speaks of the acquisition of the province of Berar or the Hyderabad assigned Districts as it is called. Lord Dalhousie determined to extort this province from the Nizam on the pretext of an alleged debt, and to support a military force called the Hyderabad contingent, which had been imposed on him in direct breach of treaty. The Nizam, as might be expected, objected to surrender the finest district in his territory, and the Resident at his Court determined to intimidate him into compliance. His Highness was given to understand that the Governor-General had given an order to the British forces to march on Hyderabad. This false intelligence was conveyed to the Nizam's Minister in a private letter written by the Assistant President, and a confidential Aid-de-camp of His Highness was hired to impress upon his master's mind the representation as truth. This man persuaded the Nizam to consent to the treaty. It will thus be seen that the bulk of the Indian Empire was acquired by a different process from conquest. And even if acquisitions were made by conquest, the conquest as Professor Seelye says was made by means of Sepoy army.

THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE POLICE TAX.

THE recent debates in the Bengal Legislative Council on the incidence of the House Tax on palatial mansions and jute mills have inaugurated a new principle of municipal taxation. Equality of rates for equality of benefits was the antiquated doctrine of dunderheaded fogeys like John Steuart Mill and other economists of his kind. We have now done with such old-world rubbish. Our law-makers of the Bengal Council have proved to demonstration that the soundest economy implies a sliding scale,—the higher the advantages the less the contribution. The miserable owner of shanties, whose highest ideal of sanitation is a meal of coarse rice, morning and evening, must pay a tax of 7½ per cent., whereas the salts of the earth, whose necessities of life cannot be adequately supplied without band-stands and bowling-greens, must not be bothered with a demand of a higher rate than 2, 3, or 4 per cent., inversely according to their incomes,—nay they must be provided with what they require from the contributions of the rice-eaters. The pathetic terms in which the enormity of making them contribute the same 7½ per cent., which the groundlings were ordered to pay, was so heart-rending and so eloquently expatiated upon by our august seignors, that none but native obduracy could resist it. We have now this new doctrine brought to bear administratively upon the municipal taxes of Calcutta, but with a difference. The Mufussil Municipalities Act laid down the principle straight and plumb, because our Legislators had then to deal with principles. The Government of Bengal, *i. e.* the said legislators in their executive capacity, has not the same opportunity to lay down the law, so it has to go to work in a round-about way. European economists say that the municipal taxes go out of the pockets of the taxed, and do not proportionately bear upon those who contribute to the earnings of those tax-payers. So thought the mill-owners of Manchester when they insisted upon the abolition of the cotton duties, for they knew that the said duties did not fully recoil on the native consumers in India, and so thought the Government of India, when it secured the good will of Manchester by abolishing those duties. As a matter of fact the abolition of the said

duties has increased the profits of Manchester, but it has given no proportional relief to the consumers of cotton-goods in India. The Government of Bengal, however, alleges the economic bearings of the case to be otherwise,—whether it thinks so in its heart is quite another matter. In its letter to the Calcutta Municipality on the partial remission of the Police charges it says, that an increase of the House tax payable by owners with a proportional reduction of the Police rate payable by occupiers will adjust itself, and the charge will ultimately fall on the occupiers, from whom the owners will recoup their losses. The words of the letter are : "The house-rate, no doubt, is in the first instance paid by the owners, but that it does not ultimately rest with these is unquestionable. A part of it at least, and in some cases the whole, are indirectly transferred to the occupiers, and its incidence adjusts itself according to natural laws which are for the most part beyond the control of Government." If this would really be the case, how is it that Manchester could not recoup the cotton duties from the Indian consumers? and why did the Government of India purchase Indian obloquy by abolishing those duties? No relief was ever saught by, or intended for, the Indians. They had, and have still, and will always have, to provide the wherewithal for the expenses of the Government, and it matters very little under what name they pay it. Well aware of this, the Bengal Government has taken the wise precaution of safeguarding its position by the adroit use of the qualifying clauses "a part of it" and "in some cases the whole," but the clauses are certainly not in keeping with the general position of ultimate transfer, and final self-adjustment theories. Let us, however, for the sake of argument take the assumption to be correct as far as it goes, and what does it amount to? It amounts to this, a few owners will receive from their tenants what they will pay in their behalf, and a great many will lose a good portion of what they shall be compelled to pay under the proposed arrangement, but what is now legally due from the occupiers. The risk of collection will be wholly transferred from the Municipality to the owners. Nor will the partial recouping take place immediately, but by the Government's own admission "ultimately," so this loss will fall on the owners during the interval between the present time and the coming ultimatum. Many houses and large tracts of land have been let out on long leases, and in their cases the "ultimate adjustment" will not take place for ten, twenty, fifty, or a hundred years, and the loss therefore to the owners for the period must be absolute. In so far there is no denying the fact that the Government is trying to benefit a particular class of occupiers by transferring their legal liabilities to another class, and that not by the ordinary authority of law, nor by an executive fiat, but by private negociation with a fourth and irresponsible party, who represents neither the owners nor the occupiers. Either the law which fixes the different rates is just, or it is unjust. If the former, it should not be tampered with in an underhand way; if it is the latter, it should be at once set aside, openly and fairly, in the light of day, and not by such negotiations with parties other than those who are directly interested. But before doing one thing or the other, the question has to be asked—is the scheme of transfer necessary or just? The Government has assigned no reason in support of its opinion. In the interest of the Municipality we think the transfer desirable, but not to the limited extent of one per cent. If the burden will adjust itself in the way suggested by Government, (we do not believe it will) all the four taxes—the House, the Lighting, the Police and the Water, should be lumped into one sum, and taken from the owners, who, under the Bengal Government Political Economy, may recover them from the different parties concerned. At present the Municipality has to make out every quarter about 1,20,000 Bills for its dues, and loses a great deal by the default of occupiers. No such loss will occur when the payers are the owners, and a total of 39,000 Bills a quarter would suffice for all purposes. But if there be any substratum of truth and right principle in the decision of the Legislature of 1876, which very carefully adjusted the responsibilities of the different parties concerned, fixing the owner's interest in the water works at one-fourth of that of the occupier, it would amount to a grave injustice to make Peter pay for Paul. A one per cent. transfer may not be quite as grievous as a total transfer; in the nature of things, a part cannot be equal to the whole; but unjust and unfair it must be, and the way in which it is proposed to be made, is the most arbitrary possible on the part of a civilized Government. A transfer of the kind would be legitimate if it could be shown that the present incidence of the rates and taxes was unequal and unfair; but this cannot be done, and has not been attempted. At present the owners pay a house tax of 7½ per cent. and a water tax of a little under 1 per cent. or one-fourth of 3½ per cent. *i. e.* a total of nearly 8½ per cent. plus the losses and costs of realizing small demands under 100 rupees from occupiers on behalf of the Municipality. The occupiers pay a Police rate of 2¼ per cent. a Lighting rate of 2 per cent. and a Water rate of say a 2 10-16th per cent. that is a total of 6 14-16th per cent. and that shows that the owners are more heavily taxed than the occupiers. It is but just and fair that the occupiers who require Water, Light, and Police protection should pay for them. If the Government is now willing to take upon itself a part of the Police charges, let the occupiers derive the benefit of the same or contribute the amount thereof for some other municipal purpose. According to the Resolution of the Supreme Government and the admission of the Bengal Government the whole of the Police charges should be borne by Government, in the case of all Mofussil Municipalities it is so borne, and no valid argument has yet been put forth to show why in the case of Calcutta there should be a different principle, and the Government should contribute one-half only. This offer cannot be looked upon as fair and even-handed justice, but such as it is, it carries further the rider that the concession should not be made unless the house-owners who derive no benefit, as owners, by the concession shall tax themselves an extra per cent. It has not been announced in so many words by Government that the occupiers are poor and should be relieved of a part of their burden, but its supporters suggest—they dare not openly say so—that some such consideration lies at the bottom. But that is a false suggestion. According to the last Census the total number of houses of all kinds in Calcutta is 38,774, and out of them, the *Englishman* admits, 30,000 are occupied by owners. If we then multiply the last number by 11·6, the Census average of dwellers per house, we come to a total of 3,48,000 persons (out of 401,671, the entire population of the town) who live in their own houses or are technically known as owners. The remainder, comprising the military in Fort William, the Sepoys quartered at the Mint and, the Government House, the Police Force, the patients in the different hospitals, the *kurfa* ryots, and the great bulk of the European population, comes under the head of occupiers. Now of all these the last two are the only rate-payers, the others contributing nothing to the Municipal fund. Again, of the last two the *kurfas* pay nothing directly, and but a very small fraction indirectly through their Bariwallahs, and the Europeans must, therefore, be looked upon as the largest contributors of the occupiers' rates. They live in large houses, pay heavy rents, and are withal the most wealthy of the rate-payers, and it is this class that will derive the most substantive benefits of the proposed charge at the sacrifice of the owners, who, the *Englishman* admits, "*are generally amongst the poorest classes.*" The Europeans number about 20,000 persons, and it is to win the good-will of these people that the Government has hit upon this measure. We should have gladly avoided this part of the question, but as the *Englishman* has thought fit to accuse the native Commissioners, who are mostly owners, of interested motives, we cannot avoid it, and our contemporary must not be surprised to find that two can play at the game with equal facility. The *Englishman* is an occupier and not an owner, and it will be immediately benefited by the reduction of the Police rate, and its lease will protect it from any imminent risk of enhancement of rent, and it cannot but advocate the proposed measure. We would fain believe that our worthy contemporary is not actuated by any such motive, and that he is only mistaken in his opinion, but we cannot help pointing out the impropriety of resorting to sinister motives for arguments though the exigencies of the advocate often leave little room for choice in arguments. As for the principle involved our contemporary of the *Statesman*, in an article instinct with the highest sense of justice, says, "It is positively indecent to see a great community of merchants, lawyers, and officials in a capital city like this, clamouring to lay the whole burden of the taxes upon a single description of property held only by natives——three-fourths of whom are too poor to be taxed at all——that they, who are all more or less wealthy, may escape paying any thing. And the Lieutenant-Governor upholds them."

PUDUKOTA IN 1882-83.

THE prosperity of the interesting little State of Pudukota in the Madras Presidency continues to increase under the enlightened administration of the Dewan, Mr. A. Sashiah Sastri. The Dewan took charge of the administration of the State in 1878, and since various important reforms and improvements have been introduced. The amount of land revenue collected in 1292 Fusli corresponding with 1882-83 exceeded four lakhs of rupees, whereas the collection at the time when Mr. Sashiah Sastri joined the State was under 2½ lakhs. It must also be remembered that this favourable result was obtained notwithstanding the continuance of low prices during the year. We are inclined to think that land revenue administration of the State requires looking into. We observe that during the year under report there were 10,361 defaulters, and the number of "demands" issued was 10,758. In 222 cases there were sales of moveables and in 240 cases land and other immoveable property was sold. Mr. Sashiah Sastri admits that there may be some cases of real over-assessment. He observes:—"After making allowances for such explicable causes, there is still a widespread feeling that the money-rates of assessment have fallen heavily and unequally, notwithstanding the undeniable fact that those rates were no hypothetical or empirical rates, but such as were deduced from the actual crops borne by the lands in a series of five years and commuted it an average of the actual selling prices of each of those years. This feeling I have traced to the ryots comparing their rates with those of the neighbouring British districts of Trichinopoly, Tanjore and Madura. As to inequalities in the rates, there is no question about the existence of such inequalities here and there. . . . . I have been most anxious to find out if there really existed a hardship which it was my duty to remedy." We hope Mr. Sashiah Sastri will examine the assessments in all cases in which there is reason to believe that the land-tax is heavy. We are glad to see that he recognises the necessity of revising the assessments should low prices continue. The financial condition of Pudukota is eminently satisfactory. There is a handsome surplus after meeting the disbursements of the year. The balance in hand at the close of 1882-83 exceeds four lakhs of rupees equal to one year's land revenue collection.

The other Departments of the State worked fairly well during the year under report. The judicial administration is still occupying the Minister's attention. The machinery for dispensing civil justice consists of two Munsiff's Courts, one Civil Judge's Court and the Huzoor Appeal Court, which is composed of the Rajah as President, the Minister as ex-officio Judge and the Judge of the Civil Court. The law administered in the State is the same as that in British India. The procedure followed is also the same. One of the two Regulations passed in 1882 declared that the Acts of the British Indian Legislature relating to civil and criminal matters are to be followed in the courts of the State. It was also provided that the decisions of the several High Courts of British India embodied in the Law Reports, especially those

of the Madras High Court should, as far as possible, be followed as precedents in the courts of Pudukota, but shall not be held absolutely binding. The Minister admits that an arrangement under which the Ruler and his Minister are ex-officio Judges of the highest court of judicature in the State and constitute a standing [redacted] against a single professional Judge [redacted]e permitted to last long. Mr. Sashia [redacted]htly holds that the highest tribunal in [redacted] should be composed of trained Judges, [redacted]rfect independence must be ensured [redacted] confidence is to be commanded. The [redacted] hopes to be able to effect this im[redacted]aim. The Pudukota Civil Court is [redacted] over by a law graduate of the Madras [redacted]ty. The revising of salaries of the [redacted]te judicial establishments will be taken in hand in connection with the contemplated changes in the constitution of the Appellate Court. The Police of Pudukota is under the District Superintendent of Trichinopoly. The present jail building being ill suited for its purpose, a site for a new jail has been chosen and the work will be soon commenced. Education is making steady progress in Pudukota. The Rajah's College had 384 pupils on the rolls on the 30th June 1883 against 337 on the corresponding date of the previous year. The College teaches up to the F. A. Standard of the Madras University. Of the 19 boys sent up to the Matriculation Examination, 10 were successful. The heir-apparent of the Rajah, a boy 8 years old, is being carefully educated. Satisfactory arragements have been made for his training. The Medical establishment of the State did good work during the year under report. The expenditure on public works, considering the limited resources of the State, was pretty large. We notice that the British Government is endeavouring to put down the manufacture of salt within the Pudukota State. The Madras Government has directed that proposals should be submitted for the suppression of the manufacture, in consideration of a suitable compensation being assured to the State by the British Government as has been arranged elsewhere. The Minister says that proposals have been submitted; but he does not tell us what these proposals are. It will be remembered that the Raja of Pudukota was deprived of his salute on the ground of the mismanagement of his State. Now that many improvements have been effected in the administration, the Political Agent has recommended the restoration of salute to the Chief. We earnestly hope the Foreign Office will accede to this recommendation.

MR. HARRISON ON THE WATER SUPPLY.

THE outburst of public feeling against the insanitary condition of Calcutta which the *Englishman* kept on resounding some time ago, was ultimately overcome, at least in the opinion of the Municipal authorities, by an elaborate lecture by the Health-Officer on the hygienic progress of the metropolis under the control of the Justices and the Commissioners. It is not remarkable, therefore, that a similar attempt should be made with reference to the recent outcry about the short supply of water. It is the head of the Municipality, the Chairman himself, that has this time come to the rescue. In an address extending over nine columns of small type and illustrated by ever so many diagrams, plans, and working models, Mr. Harrison has ostensibly explained to the members of the Dalhousie Institute the rationale of the Pultah water-supply, but really vindicated the credit of his Department before the public. He has shown at great length that the system is perfect, the working unexceptionable, and the supervision all that could be desired, and, if there has been a short supply, if the people of entire districts got only a "mere dribble" and others obtained it at a height of 2 or 3 feet, when they paid for and had legal right to one of 50 feet, the fault lay primarily with the rate-payers themselves, who caused waste; and secondly with the laws of hydraulics, which with a given pressure produced very different effects at different distances. All this may be very true, and with such an artistic and roseate picture as the learned lecturer has produced one cannot have the heart to pry into the accuracy of details. But the questions remain—who was it who designed the system for a population of four lakhs, which is not enough for half that number? Who estimated for the pipes which should have, but have not as yet, sufficed to traverse the whole 129 miles of our roads, but have left over 30 miles unprovided? Which are the laws of hydraulics which stood in the way of making the estimate in this respect correct? Who arranged for a pressure of a hundred feet on the main and afterwards with the overflowing milk of human kindness tenderly let off the contractor by accepting pipes which can stand no pressure at all? Who was it that guaranteed a diffuse supply of water throughout the 24 hours of the day and night and at particular hours to drive that water to a height of 50 feet in every house, and to "stand-pipes in every street, lane and thoroughfare" without exception, placed at a distance of 100 yards from each other, and subsequently out of the said kindness to the contractor changed the "every street, lane and thoroughfare" of the original law into "the chief public streets of the town," and widened the intervals between the stand pipes to 150 yards, without in any way reducing the liability of the rate-payers? Who was it, again, who, in 1876, did away with the constant pressure of 50 feet to one of 10 feet, and pledged themselves to send up water to a height of 50 feet for two hours in the morning and one hour in the afternoon, adding at the same time an extra per cent., on the water-rate? And lastly, when the pledge was given were not some experts consulted as to how far the perverse laws of hydraulics would admit of the pledge being kept? Consistent replies to such queries would have gone a long way to remove the impression which the rate-payers now labor under of having been scurvily treated; but the lecturer has vouchsafed none, and the tender feeling of the fond mother for her new-born infant with which he has glossed over the fragile "main," is very disappointing. The transition is easy enough from a height of 50 feet in every house as guaranteed by law to a pressure of 50 feet in the pnumatic apparatus at the pumping stations, and the unsophisticated public cannot readily perceive the change; but some people have a notion that when a public lecturer of such a high standing as Mr. Harrison, deigns to come forward for the edification of the community at large such legardemain should have been avoided. It is unworthy of him. As for the rate-payers they claim water at a height of 50 feet, each in his own house, and, when they do not get it, complain of both bad faith and breach of promise, and no amount of perforated pipes in the Dalhousie Institute with water rising to a height of 2 inches here, 4 inches there, and 6 inches at another place can convince them that they have not been sold. We have not at hand a tabular statement showing the gradual increase of "water connections" during the last 6 or 7 years, and the lecturer did not deem it worth his while to produce one, though the line of his argument depended solely on the alleged increase. That there has been a steady increase is undeniable, but does it bear any relation to the falling off of the supply? That is the real point of the argument, and it remains unexplained. We fail, too, to reconcile the assurance of Mr. Harrison that the failure of pressure has resulted solely from want of water and the statement of Mr. Kimber "that there has been for years insufficient engine power to give the pressure even within the period of three hours." (Further Report p. 5, para (12). These, however, are narrow points. The broad question is—is the supply this year as insufficient as it was in former years, or more so? The Chairman's phrase "a mere trickle," or Mr. Kimber's "a mere dribble" is decisive for the districts concerned, any thing less than a "mere trickle" would amount to an absolute stoppage, and yet *a priori* one should expect a very different state of things. Mr. Harrison indulges in a mere figure of speech when he says his officers have by various contrivances made the main yield 8½ million gallons recently when it was capable by its capacity to yield only 6 millions. With every sentiment of respect for the Engineers concerned we believe that they are incapable, without altering the slope or fall or applying pressure, of making a pipe carry by mere gravitation more water than its diameter will admit of. No lubricating or palm oil, has yet been discovered which would coax an iron pipe, without changing its level, to make water flow in it faster than usual. The fact is, there are two formulæ for calculating the discharge of water through pipes, according to one of which our main of 42 inches should discharge in round numbers 6 million gallons per day; according to the other (Bazin's) by over 8 million gallons. To be on the safe side Mr. Clarke accepted the first formula, which has by experience since been proved to be wrong, and Mr. Harrison has taken advantage of it to sing io pæans of praise for his lieutenants. However that be, we have lately added 2½ million gallons of unfiltered water to relieve the stress on our filtered supply, and our population has fallen in number to the extent of about twenty thousand heads, and these facts should go towards reducing the stress, not to aggravate it. The steadily increasing house connections are very insignificant factors in this respect. It implies only a change of venu. Out of a certain number of persons who formerly drew their supplies from the road-side stand pipes, some now get what they want from taps in their own houses. Their wants have not multiplied, and they cannot now require much more water than what they did before. A slight difference there certainly is, but it cannot exceed the reduction resulting from decrease of population and increase of supply. Of course this position of ours will be denied by Mr. Harrison, who holds that through some perversity of native human nature water is wasted by the people, and hence the short supply. But that is a mere assertion, and the onus rests with him to prove that such is really the case. As yet he has produced not a tittle of evidence in support of his position, and the good-natured Father Lafont, in his well-meant attempt to defend Mr. Harrison, has produced a fact which goes quite against his case. So what was intended to excuse has served only to accuse. The Reverend Father has often seen water wasting from stand-pipes, because some native or other had failed to turn the tap. Now all the taps of the stand-pipes are self-acting, and were so made to prevent wastage, and if they do not stop when no water is being drawn their mechanism is out of order, and it behoves the Chairman of the Municipality to see that they are duly attended to. Between the Engineer, the Assistant Engineer in the Water Works Department, the little army of overseers, and the three Inspectors especially entertained to inspect water-fittings, there should have been attention enough to look after these taps, and there has been gross neglect of duty to account for the wastage the good Father has seen. At any rate the fact does not in any way criminate the rate-payers. That bad fittings do exist in some native houses, we do not deny; they do so pretty frequently in the smaller or poorer houses in European cities, particularly in London. They are inseparable from the present state of mechanics, and the wastage therefore is unpreventible and inseparable from the nature of the work, and therefore no waste at all, or such as should not be discanted upon. It may be all very well to parody the saying of one of the characters in Gulliver's Travels, and say that he is a benefactor to the town who will save the waste of even a gallon of water, even as he who made two blades of corn to grow where only one grew before; but that belongs to the province of poetic fancy, and not to civic duty. Anyhow, is wastage through neglected taps the only cause of our short supply at all? Is there nothing in the hot haste with which tanks and wells have been closed without making adequate provision to replace them, driving the people from an impure supply to no supply at all? Have not water been sold for profit to replenish swimming baths outside the town when the rate-payers were dying of thirst? How much water do the Municipality sell to Barrackpur, Howrah, Suburbs and Dum Dum—water that would have gone a great way to meet the requirements of those who pay for the preparation of it? How much water is now annually exported to the deprivation of the rate-payers? Replies to these and such like questions would have laid bare causes of short supply which the lecturer would

have done well to notice, even if it were only to explain them away. Such a course would have given his lecture an appearance of impartiality which it sadly lacks at present.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE recieved from the Press Commissioner's Office the following list of the Queen's Birthday honors :

Simla, May 24 —His Excellency the Grand Master of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India is pleased to announce that Her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India has been graciously pleased to make the following appointments to aforesaid Order. To be a Knight Grand Commander : His Highness Maharaja Charu Rajundra Wadiar Bahadoor, Maharaja of Mysore. To be Companions : the Hon'ble Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Bart, Bombay ; the Hon'ble Charles Gonne, Bombay Civil Service ; the Hon'ble William Wilson Hunter, Bengal Civil Service ; Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Murray, Bengal Staff Corps, late Director-General of Telegraphs of India. Indian Empire, Her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India has been pleased to appoint the undermentioned gentlemen, who, by their services, have merited the Royal favour, to be Companions of the Orders of the Indian Empire : Alfred Woodley Croft, Esq., Director of Public Instruction, Bengal ; the Rev. William Miller, Principal, Madras Christian College ; the Hon'ble Kashinath Trimbak Telang, Barrister-at-law, Bombay ; Benjamin Lewis Rice, Esq., Director of Public Instruction, Mysore and Coorg ; Captain G. O'Brien Carew, Deputy Director of the Indian Marine ; Shaikh Sharfuddin Rais, of Shikarpore, N. W. P., Rai Kanhai Lal Dey Bahadoor, late Teacher of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence, Campbell Medical School, sealdah ; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Edward Stewart, Bengal Staff Corps ; Baboo Doorga Churun Laha, Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta ; Edward Thomas, Esq, late of the Bengal Civil Service. His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer upon Kunwar Girja Nath Rai, adopted son of Maharanee Srimati Sham Mohini, of Dinagepore, the title of Maharaja as a personal distinction ; upon Kunwar Udit Narain Singh Deo, Chief of Saraikala, the title of Raja Bahadoor, as a personal distinction ; upon Gopal Dass, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Punjab, the title of Rai Bahadoor and the designation of Honorary Assistant Commissioner, as a personal distinction ; upon Baboo Kedar Nath Koondoo Chowdhry, of Mohiare, in the Howrah district ; and Saladi Nayudu Garu, Inspector of Police, Madras, the title of Rai Bahadoor as a personal distinction ; upon Hafiz Abdul Karim, of Meerut, and Mian Mahboob Khan, Jaghirdar and Honorary Magistrate, Muzuffurghur district, the title of Khan Bahadoor as a personal distinction.

The selections are generally good. Only two Bengali gentlemen have come in for the honor of C. I. E. Babu Durga Churn Law and Rai Kanyelal Dey Bahadur. Babu Durga Churn Law in our opinion deserved the higher honor of C. S. I. Rai Kanyelal Dey Bahadur, has received a fitting recoguitions of his eminent services on retirement. Mr. Telang also well deserves the honor.

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM to the *Englishman* explains the difference between Lord Kimberley and Lord Lytton regarding the Indian Civil Service question :

Simla, May 21.—The discrepancy between the statements of Lords Kimberley and Lytton as to the proposals of the latter regarding the employment of natives in the public service, appears to be due to an incorrect report of Lord Kimberley's speech in the *Times*. Lord Kimberley is said to deny having charged Lord Lytton with proposing to exclude the natives from the Covenanted Civil Service either directly or indirectly, words to that effect appearing in the published speech being due to the misapprehension of his Lordship's words on the part of the *Times's* reporter.

THE ENGLISHMAN has received the following telegram from London :

London, May 18.—An important meeting of the Council of the Property Defence League was held here on Friday, the 16th instant. Earl Wemyss occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings. He was followed by Mr. Roper Lethbridge, who in the course of a long and interesting speech combating the principles of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, examined the Bill as amended by the Select Committee. A resolution was moved by Earl Fortescue and seconded by Baron Bramwell, and carried unanimously, that the property Defence League should co-operate with the Indian Constitutional Association.

We congratulate the zemindars of Bengal on this new and powerful alliance.

WE CANNOT UNDERSTAND the snarling criticisms, which have been made upon Dr. Hunter's deputation to England to give evidence before the Parliamentary Committee upon Indian Railways. He is the Director General of Statistics, and therefore in the best position to furnish facts and figures regarding the economic effects of Indian Railways. Why should the Government of India be blamed for selecting such an officer to give the necessary evidence before the Parliamentary Committee.

THE BENGAL TENANCY BILL is viewed in England in a new light. The *Morning Post* discusses it so far as it will affect the Indian tea industry. We give the following extract from the article of the *Post* :

The case stands thus. In the Bengal Tenancy Bill, it is to be enacted that almost every cultivator of land, holding under a superior landlord, is to be admitted to an indefeasible right of occupancy in his plot of land, with power to mortgage and sell it with or without the consent and control of his landlord, whose power of interference is circumscribed by so many checks that practically the landlord will be left with little or no power of selection of his own tenants. In the cultivation of tea gardens, the proprietors are well aware of the difficulties with which they have had to contend in obtaining labourers. The Government of India has enacted many laws on the subject of the emigration of labourers to the tea gardens of Assam and Cachar ; and if these laws have not always been successful in promoting the interests of the labourers, for whose protection they were made, there is no doubt that they have succeeded in increasing to the tea-planter the cost of his imported labourers. The Government has always benevolently advised the tea planter to use local labour, or at all events to create a supply of local labour. And the tea-planters, nothing loth, have freely responded to this suggestion that a supply of local labourers should be created, and they have been ready to grant and to let plots of land for the cultivation of rice and vegetables, and any other food supplies which could be raised on those parts of their estates which were not particularly adapted for the growth of the tea plant. Owners and managers of tea gardens have watched and encouraged these infant colonies on their property, hoping thereby to strengthen the stability of their position, and to improve the working power and value of their estates. It will probably surprise them to learn that if the Legislature proposes to apply the same principles of protection to the cultivating classes throughout the whole of India, they will find that their infant colonies have been developed into a band of, co-proprietors, who may in time demand to be admitted as shareholders in those gardens which are held by joint-stock companies of limited or unlimited liability. There is no reason why the present or any future Government of India should hesitate to declare that these present cultivators of rice and other food supplies on a tea plantation are to have a right of occupancy with full rights of property for the purpose of mortgaging and selling their plots of land in accordance with the principles which are now set forth in the Bengal Tenancy Bill. It will apparently be in vain for any tea planter to try and guard himself against these possibilities by entering into any contracts with the labourers whom he wishes to use as colonists, because the Indian Legislature does not scruple to set such contracts at nought. In the Bengal Tenancy Bill the supposed advantages of the new law enforced on the cultivators rate whether he wishes it or not. The cultivator is to be endowed with new rights, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary which may exist between him and his landlord. On the other hand, the landlord is not to contract himself out of the new law. It will, therefore, be well for the owners of tea estates to look to the possibility of coming danger whilst it is yet remote.

Our London Contemporary is quite right. The Bengal Tenancy Bill is the thin end of the wedge for all India.

MR. LINGHAM we believe was an attorney of the Calcutta High Court. He or a brother of his was a good painter and thus the Linghams became known in this city. Mr. Lingham has now become a judge of the Rangoon Small Cause Court and his relations with the local bar do not seem to be of the happiest kind. We have before us a memorandum in which he has villified in no measured terms some members of the local bar and which he has under his own authority published in the *Rangoon Gazette*. We give some elegant extracts from it :

I mentioned to Mr. Sen that though I had been charged in the judgment with acting illegally, the Recorder had not been informed that Mr. Owen had waived the objection ; that though I was precluded from contesting the decision on the merits, yet I claimed to shew that the Judge had been deceived or defrauded, that fraud avoided all things, and that Mr. Sen could hardly ask me to carry out what I believed to be a fraud. I further observed that the procedure was novel, and not by any means settled. I should refuse the application, and take time to consider what action I should take.

Again :

The application was not made by Mr. Owen, a highly respected and experienced Attorney of the old Supreme Court, Calcutta, and its successor. But the revision was applied for and argued by Mr. Sen and Mr. Porter. These gentlemen conceive themselves to have been insulted by me, and they have avowed their intention to get me removed from my office. The term advocate has led them to entertain a mistaken idea as to their duties. They are in fact Vakeels or Pleaders ; but they assume to themselves the position of advocates of the High Court in Calcutta or Barristers in English, and separate themselves from their clients, and fail to receive their confidence. The attitude of the bar to the public can be estimated by their manifesto to the Chamber of Commerce's Memorial of the 13th April 1883, and they treat the judge of this Court as a drudge to do necessary work which they deemit beneath their dignity to perform. Under such circumstances suitors generally omit to employ them.

Further :

Mr. Gillbanks, in a fit of rage, then accused me of shutting out evidence. I treated this as a very serious imputation against myself, and I denied it indignantly, and asked for an instance. Mr. Gillbanks did not give any instance, and did not withdraw his charge. He merely said that he lost his head. I remarked that it was hard on me that I should bear the blame of his own incompetence. Mr. Gillbanks protested against such language being applied to him, and called upon me to withdraw it. I said that it was called forth by the unfounded and insulting charge he had made against the Court, and I would not withdraw it. This is the so-called insult which led some members of the Bar to inform the Chief Commissioner of their determination not to appear before me.

Mr. Lingham has since recorded the following separation:

Since sending the above I have seen Mr. Owen and he tells me that he was asked by Mr. Sen, before Mr. Allen the then learned Recorder, while hearing the revision proceedings, whether he had drawn the objections made before me to the amendments, and he said he had not. In making this answer I fully believe that Mr. Owen acted *bonafide*, but his memory had failed him. The fact however that such a question had been put to Mr. Owen, to my mind removes all imputation against Messrs Sen and Porter of any attempt to conceal the waiver from the learned Recorder. Mr. Gillbanks stated to the Recorder his supposition that I had overruled the objections he did not give any grounds. I understand Messrs Sen and Porter deny they were in Court when the proceedings before me occurred. I have a very clear and distinct recollection on the subject. It would be unreasonable of me to expect them to have a clearer recollection on the matter than either Mr. Owen or Mr. Gillbanks, who were actually engaged in the proceedings, For these reasons I withdraw my solicitation for any enquiry. I may add that I treated the minutes of Mr. Allen's order, set out in Mr. Sens petition, as complete. I find it is incorrect and Mr. Allen's direction to proceed *de novo* was brought to my notice yesterday. This renders all reference to you unnecessary. I have been misled and have spent a great deal of valuable time and energy for no purpose. I will carry out Mr. Allen's directions.

Is a judge, who conducts himself in this fitful and capricious manner, fit to occupy his seat on the bench?

WE SAID twice last year during Mr. Bellet's incumbency as Director of Public Instruction, that he had misinterpreted Government orders in regard to the promotion of officers belonging to the Subordinate Education Service. The orders of Mr. Thompson were that in every case in which an officer was deemed qualified to be put over the heads of others, the reasons for supersession were to be stated. Mr. Bellett chose to put his own interpretation upon these orders and declared that there was to be no supersession at all ; and made promotions strictly in accordance with the *seniority* rule, without any reference to the age, abilities or qualifications of the persons promoted. This was a distinct deviation from the principle established under the Government of Sir Ashley Eden with whom this gradation scheme originated. Sir Ashley distinctly declared in his Resolution starting the scheme, that mere seniority was no claim to promotion.

It gives us great pleasure now to note that Mr. Croft, the permanent Director of Public Instruction, who had all along acted upon the lines indicated by Sir Ashley Eden in giving promotions, has revived the old principle. Among the promotions recently made, we find that Babu Beni Madhub Dey, Class III, gets over the heads of five persons above him ; and Babus Abinashchunder Chatterjea and Mathuranath Chatterjea, Class, III are just over the heads of seven and eight persons respectively. This is as it should be. The existing gradation scheme is so narrow in its scope, that for obvious reasons, the *seniority* rule cannot be enforced in *all cases*.

We hope the rumour is true that Mr. Thompson is prepared to allot a lakh of rupees for the purpose of improving the position and prospects of the subordinate educational service, and that the whole scheme is to be revised. If this Rumour should prove true, we hope Mr. Croft will keep as near as possible to the scheme originally proposed by Mr. Reynolds for the gradation of the Subordinate Educational Service, which was something analogous to that of the Subordinate Executive Service.

THE TIME MOVES faster than many of us seem to perceive or are willing to admit. For instance a mere primary or vernacular school in villages near the capital as calculated to satisfy the educational wants and aspirations of the inhabitants of those villages has become a solecism. We do not therefore wonder that a struggle is going on between two sections of the local community of Ariadah for the assertion of the principle they each profess. The vernacularists stick to the *vernacular* school they have established ; the anti-vernacularists have opened an anglo-vernacular school, which has Minerva-like

shot forth in full bloom in two months. The question is-cannot the two parties combine and co-operate in a common cause? There are delicate matters of grant-in-aid for the Government and the local Municipality to consider. Then there is the question of local habitation for the new school. Babu Prossunno Chunder Banerjea, the leading and public-spirited resident of Ariadah has built a nice house for the Vernacular School. If he lends his powerful aid, we think an amalgamation of the schools can be easily brought about, and the result will be satisfactory to all parties.

WE CANNOT sufficiently praise the Translator of the Bengal Government for the promptitude with which he has translated into Bengali the voluminous Amended Tenancy Bill, the report of the Select Committee, and the Dissents. Within the space of a month he has translated all these papers and published the translations in the last April number of the *Bengali Government Gazette*.

THERE IS DARKNESS beneath the lamp. We hear that the other night a dacoity headed by twenty, some say, forty persons, regularly armed with latties and swords and provided with torch lights, was committed upon the house of a *Suri* in Agurparah, near the Police out-post. The master of the house was robbed of all he had, and his wife was wounded. The Police as usual were conspicuous for their masterly inactivity. What is Mr. Pratt about? It is true that at this moment he is on leave, but since his advent crime has considerably increased in this district. If things go on at this rate in this metropolitan district, we can easily conceive how they are likely to go on in the districts in the far interior. It is time that Mr. Pratt should be called to look.

SINCE WRITING the above we have received the following letter from an esteemed correspondent:

SIR,—Considerable alarm has been felt by the entire population of Augurpara, Kamarhati, Areadah, Belghoria &c. owing to a daring dacoity committed on the night of the 21st instant in the house of a spirit vendor named Haran Shah situated on the border of the Barrackpore Trunk Road within a stone's throw from the Augurpara Police out-post. The Dacoits were large in number and were armed with deadly weapons. They attacked the house with lighted torches and severely handled the owner. The property robbed is said to be between 6 and 7 thousand rupees worth including pawned jewels. The Police Head Constable went to the scene but was beaten back by the Dacoits. It is said that a European gentleman who lived near came out with his gun to face the dacoits, but his servant and the Dacoits reminded him of the dangerous consequence that would follow after the discharge of the first shot, and he was thus prevailed upon to desist from his attempt. The Dacoits packed up their booty and went it is said to the eastern direction.

2. If the Police staff were insufficient to cope with the Dacoits, it is highly desirable in the interest of life and property that it should be increased to a strength to face similar emergencies not only in the locality in question but in all other out-posts particularly in Kamarhati, where there are only 5 constables.

3. In last March there was some such occurrence in Bonhoogly, and in April last in Sookehar and in Nowpara so that the inhabitants of these and other villages are in fear of the return of the old Dacoity days which were put an end to by a separate department of detectives. The Police, as they now are, are mere scare-crows and are the object of sport to the thieves and robbers.

Yours Truly
The 23rd May 1884. M. G.

There is, we are told, a general feeling of insecurity in the villages mentioned. We hope steps will be taken by the district authorities to give confidence to the people.

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be a certain cure for Pains on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, & Eruptions on the Skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta, ☞ Examine the bottle, and see it has the Seal, Label, and Wrapper of Darlington & Co. ☜

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Allen G. Chattaway, Esq., District Medical Officer, Leominster, testifies, as follows, to the unparalleled efficacy of this celebrated Oil in the treatment of Consumption:—"Having for some years extensively used Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, both in public and private practice, I have no hesitation in stating that its effects are very far superior to those of any other Cod Liver Oil. Nearly four years since, two cases of combined consumption were placed under my care. In both, the lungs were a mass of tubercular deposit, and every possible sound to be heard in Phthisis was present. The sole remedy employed was Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil; and now the patients are strong and fat; the diseased abnormal sounds nearly inaudible; and in the one case (male), hunting, fishing, and shooting are freely indulged in the patient expressing himself quite capable of undergoing as much fatigue as any of his fellow-sportsmen." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—21*st May* 1884.

General—30th April—Mr J A Hopkins, Offg Magte and Colr, Tipperah, special leave for six months, from 20th June next.

Mr H G Cooke, Offg Magte and Colr, Noakholly, to act as Magte and Colr of Tipperah, during absence, on deputn, of Mr F Jones.

5th May—The Lieut Govr accepts the resignation tendered by Mr A R Macdonald of his Comn as Lieut in N B S Ry Volr Rifles Crops.

6th May—Mr L R Forbes, Offg Depy Comr Sonthal Pergha, is vested with the powers of a Settlement Officer under Regulation III of 1872.

10th May—Baboo Hursahoy Sing, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, on special duty, Patna and Gya, leave for three weeks, from date he may avail himself of it.

10th May—The following officers reported there departure from India, on furlough, on the dates mentioned opposite their names;—

Mr W M Clay, 11th April, and Mr A W B Power, 25th April 1884.

Mr R F O'Brien, Asst Magte and Colr, Bogra, is transfd to Nuddea, and is posted to the sudder station of that dist.,

13th May—M H H Locke, Principal, School of arts Calcutta, has been granted by the Secy of State for India an extension of furlough for three months.

13th May—Mr E R Middleton, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Midnapore, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on 25th April 1884.

Mr F H Barrow, Tempy Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, first grade, is confirmed in that grade, from 29th March last, vice Mr J Kelleher.

Mr Barrow will continue to act as Magte and Colr of Khoolna.

Mr C A Wilkins, Tempy Jt Magte and Depy Colr, second grade, on leave, is confirmed in that grade, from 29th March last, vice Mr F H Barrow.

The orders of 18th March last, apptg Mr C A S Bedford to act as Depy Comr, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is cancelled.

Mr J A Bourdillon, Inspr-Genl of Registration, has been Granted by Secy of State for India an extension of furlough or six months.

Baboo Srinath Chatterjee, Sub Depy colr, Buxar, Shahab is transfd temply to the Bhuboouh sub-divn of that dist. H

17th May—Baboo Bhugoban Chunder Bose to act as Sub-Depy Colr of Mymensingh, during absence of Baboo Petumber Banerjee.

Police—5th May—Mr H N arris, Dist Supdt of Police, Lohardugga, leave for three months, from 19th inst.

Mr T G Charles, Dist Supdt of Police, Jessore, is transfd to Lohardugga.

Mr W H cornish, Dist Supdt of Police, Noakholly, is transfd to Jessore.

Mr. H S Schurr, Asst Supdt of Police, 24-Pergunnahs, to as Dist Supdt of Police, Noakholly.

Police—6th May—Mr E Muspratt, Offg Asst Supdt of Police, Burdwan, leave for two days, in extension of leave granted 9 h Jany last.

The orders of 15th March last, apptg Mr W D Pratt, A E C Bolst, and R F H Pughe to act in second, third, and fourth grades, of Dist Supdts of Police, respectively, will have effect from 2nd Feby 1884.

9th May—The services of Mr V W Bortelson, Asst Supdt of Police, Mymensingh, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of India, in Home Dept. This cancels order of 21st March last, placing the services of Mr W Campbell, Dist Supdt of Police, Singbhoom, tempy at the disposal of that dept.

Mr H M Reelly, Dist of Police, Moorshedabad, is transfd to Mymensingh,

Mr T C Orr, Asst of Police, Serampore, to act as Dist Supdt of Police, Moorshedabad.

Mr G D Graham, Asst Supdt of Police, on leave, to act as Dist Supdt of Police, 24-Pergns, during absence of Mr W D Pratt,

Baboo Gopal Hori Mullick, Asst Supdt of Police Midnapore to act as Dist Supdt of Police of that dist during absence, on deputn' of Mr O S Stack.

Mr H E C Paget, Asst Supdt of Police, Shahabad, to act as Dist Supdt Supdt of Police, Khoolna, during absence of Mr C Rabani.

Mr E Muspratt, Offg Asst Supdt of Police, Burdwan is transfed to Shahabad.

Mr A R Anley, Offg Asst Supdt of Police, Dinagepore, is transfd to Cuttack.

12th May—Mr J Cowie, Offg Supdt of Police, is posted to the Burdwan dist from date he joined that dist.

19th May—Lieut-Col W W Hume, Dist Supdt of Police, Julpigoree, to act in first grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 27th March last, vice Col H E Waller, promtd.

Mr R H G Irvine, Dist Supdt of Police, Dinagepore, to act in second grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 27th March last, vice Lieut Col W W Hume.

Mr J B Goad, Dist Supdt of Police, Hazaribhgh, to act in third grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from the 27th March last, vice Mr R H G Irvine.

Mr W R Green, Dist Supdt of Police, Hooghly, to act in fourth grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 27th March last, vice Mr J B Goad.

Mr W B Maxwell, Dist Supdt of Police, Assam to act in third grade of Dist Supdt of Police, from the 27th March last, vice Mr C Jennins, on leave.

Mr C A Fisher, Comdt of Frontier Police, Assam, to act in fourth grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 27th March last, vice Mr W B Maxwell.

Mr H W J Bamber, Dist Supdt of Police, Rajshahye to act in first grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 6th ult, vice Lieut-Col W L N Knyvett on deputn.

Mr J Masters, Dist Supdt of Police, Burdwan, to act in second grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 6th ult, vice Mr H W J Bamber.

Mr A V Knyvett, Pers Asst to the inspr-Genl of Police, to act in third grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 6th ult vice Mr J Masters.

Mr F A Dawson, Dist Supdt of Police, Bankoora, to act in fourth grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 6th ult vice Mr A V Knyvett.

Mr W H Cortish, Dist Supdt of Police, Jessore to act in second grade of Dis Supdts of Police, from 25th ult, vice Col W Gordon, on leave.

Mr B Rattray, Dist Supdt of Police, Pubna, to act in third grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 25th ult, vice Mr W H Cornish.

Mr H V H Roberts, Dist Supdt of Police, Tipperah to act in fourth grade of Dist Supdts of Police, from 25th ult, vice Mr B Rattray.

Advertisements.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL IRRIGATION.

Notice is hereby given that the Eastern Series of the Sone Canals will be closed for repairs from the 1st to the 10th June 1884, both days inclusive.

Sd. G. F. E. S. NEILL, MAJOR, M. S. C.,
Calcutta, } Under Secretary.
20th May 1884. }

THE BENGAL CENTRAL FLOTILLA COMPANY LTD.

Notice is hereby given that a preliminary Steamer Service for passengers and goods will be started on and from the 23rd of May 1884 between *Khoolna* and *Barrisal* and the intermediate Stations: *Bagir Hat Peruzpore*, *Jalukati* and *Nalchitti* and Vice Versa.

The Passenger Service, at present, will be on alternate days, Sundays excepted, and will run in connection with the Bengal Central Railway recently opened (under the orders of the Government of India] direct from Calcutta to Khoolna.

A powerfu l fleet of Steamers and flats specially designed for this Company and fitted with the latest improvements, will shortly arrive from England. These vessels will afford every accomodation for Passengers Goods.

N. B.—A Dak Bungalow will shortly be opened at Khoolna for the convenience of the Public travelling by this Service.

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Calcutta Agent.
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ASUTOSH LAHURI, B. C. E.,
District Engineer, Rungpore.

NOTICE.

Wanted an Overseer for the Dinagepore Municipality on a salary of Rs. 50 and horse allowance Rs. 10 per month.

None need apply who have not a thorough knowledge of road-making, Compass-Surveying, Levelling and Drawing.

Applicants should state their age in the application together with their present occupation.

Applications will be received by the undersigned up to the 7th of June 1884.

J. HERALD,
Vice-Chairman.

Notice.

Wanted an Accountant and Head-Clerk for the Nuddea District Road Cess Committee's Office on a salary of Rs. 55 per mensem for six months with every hope of being after that period confirmed in that post.

Applications will be received upto 8th Proximo.

None need apply who has not the qualification of a 4th Grade Accountant of the P. W. Department.

The successful candidate shall have to furnish security to the extent of Rs. 550.

W. V. G. TAYLER,
Magte. and Chairman, Distrtict
Road Cess Committee, Nuddea.
Kishnaghur, 17th May 1884.

BHARATI.

The public are hereby informed that the "Bharati" Magazine has been transferred to Srimati Swarna Kumari Devi from the 12th April 1884. The present Proprietor and Editor has appointed Babu Satis Chandra Mukerji Manager, to whom all communications should in future be addressed at 5 Kashia-Bagan Garden House, Ultadingee Calcutta. There will be no change in the staff of contributors.

Sd. DWIJENDRA NATH TAGORE.

WANTED to officiate for one or two years a Head-Master for the Contai H. C. E. School on Rs. 65 a month.

Applications with copies of testimonials should be sent to the undersigned on or before the 31st May 1884.

UPENDRA N. MOJOOMDAR,
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Contai P. O., Midnapore Dist.
7th May 1884.

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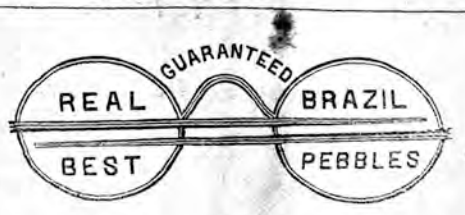

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Without profits.

Age next Birth-day	By 10 payments			By 15 payments			By 20 payments			Age next Birth-day
	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	
20	62	2	0	46	8	0	39	0	0	20
25	64	12	0	48	8	0	41	0	0	25
30	68	8	0	51	10	0	44	0	0	30
35	73	8	0	56	0	0	47	12	0	35
40	79	8	0	61	0	0	52	2	0	40
45	86	0	0	66	10	0	57	8	0	45

Endowment Insurance which is an effective way of making a retiring provision for mature and old age. Table of Annual premiums for Insurance of Rs. 1,000.

Without profits.

Age next Birth-day	Policy payable at death to his heirs if i happen sooner, or on the Anniversary o the day of the Insurance immediately before attaining.									Aige next Birth-day
	Age 60			Age 50			Age 55			
	Rs.	As	P.	Rs.	As	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	
20	32	2	0	34	14	0	38	14	0	20
25	36	0	0	40	0	0	46	0	0	25
30	42	4	0	48	0	0	57	6	0	35
35	50	0	0	59	2	0	75	4	0	30

N.B.—Risks on Native Lives are accepted on special terms.

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